

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## HONORING THE SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 1996

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to the Second Baptist Church, of Fall Church, VA, and to their esteemed pastor, James E. Browne. The Second Baptist Church is celebrating its 122d anniversary and their 20th anniversary of guidance under Reverend Browne.

The Second Baptist Church started as a two-room log cabin by Elder Hiram Reed and Pastor Robert Johnson in 1870, and flourished over the past century into a beautiful church complete with a bell tower and artistic windows. This church has played an important role in the community and for its congregation by providing a number of activities and services. They presently have an active church ministry; dedicated deacons and deaconesses; an excellent music department; a children's choir—Rosebuds; a youth choir—Choraliers; a contemporary choir—Golden Echoes; a chancel choir—Senior; a men's chorus; a gospel choir; the W.E. Costner Memorial Bell Choir; a productive education division; a dynamic youth department; and a bible study class.

The Second Baptist Church has been blessed for 20 years with Reverend Browne's religious teachings. In addition to his work at the Second Baptist Church, he served as moderator of the Northern Virginia Baptist Association for 5 years. Reverend Browne is supported by his lovely wife, Mrs. Hazel Browne, a deaconess, a member of the senior choir and the president of the Missionary Society. Also by his side is his daughter, Mrs. Lilian Fernanders, organist for the church.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in saluting the Second Baptist Church, Reverend Browne, and its congregation as they celebrate their rich heritage on their very special anniversary. We wish them best for continued success in the future.

CONGRATULATIONS TO AMY  
ASPINWALL, GRAND PRIZE WIN-  
NER OF THE HAWAII CAR-  
PENTERS UNION VOTE 1996  
ESSAY CONTEST

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 1996

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Amy Aspinwall of Mililani, HI, and to congratulate her on winning the grand prize of the Hawaii Carpenters Union "Vote '96—Works for Us" essay contest. Amy, a student at Mililani High School, is the daughter of unit 7 member Angel

Aspinwall. Her essay addressed the issue of why voting is important to our union family.

I was pleased to serve as one of the judges in this contest dedicated to promoting the idea of participation in our electoral process. Amy's work was one of many fine entries into this contest. Part of her award is a trip to Washington where she will get to see her Federal Government at work.

Congratulations Amy. I am pleased to submit for the RECORD the winning essay by Amy Aspinwall:

### WHY VOTING IS IMPORTANT TO OUR UNION FAMILY

Imagine living in a country where the government had the right to do whatever it wanted. You would have no say in the election of government officials and your voice would never be heard by them. If this sounds unthinkable to you, then you might be surprised to know that there are thousands of people in Hawai'i who subject themselves to this sort of treatment year after year. The government is not at fault, though. These people bring this on themselves, simply by not voting.

As a member of a union family which is fortunate enough to live in a democratic society, I realize that voting is very important. In each election, the union carefully examines each candidate's motives and intentions. Through this process, they recommend the candidates they believe will best serve the interests of the union and its members. With a carpenters' union as strong as ours, if all the members voted for these candidates, he or she would surely be elected.

Having union-endorsed candidates in office would yield many benefits. The officials would support legislation for responsible growth and support the union movement, thereby creating jobs for union members. They could also work with other officials to support the carpenters' union in their area.

With our voice being heard in the government and enough work for everybody, the nation's economy would be vastly improved because people earning money means people spending money. Also, if union members understood the link between voting and jobs, they would show more interest in government matters and more support for the Carpenters' Union. Perhaps even some non-union contractors would join us.

I believe that the right to vote should be taken seriously by all who possess it, especially Carpenters' Union members. If everybody did this, we would be able to elect the candidates who would best serve us, have our voice heard in the government, and improve the quality of life for everyone. If not, we would be giving the government the right to do exactly as it pleased, and we would only have ourselves to blame.

## OMNIBUS PARKS AND PUBLIC LANDS MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL RICHARDSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support the Presidio bill which in-

cludes the Taos Bottleneck bill. The nearly 765-acre bottleneck tract is one of the most sacred sites for the Taos Pueblo people: It has had religious significance for these people for thousands of years. In fact, the area we call the bottleneck is known as the "Path of Life Lands" to the Pueblo people because it contains their most sacred religious lands. Additionally, the Taos Pueblo was recognized by the United Nations as a World Heritage Site in 1992 in recognition of its status as one of the last remaining pre-Columbian civilizations in North America.

Legislation signed by President Richard Nixon in 1970 returned to the Taos Pueblo all lands that had been seized by the Federal Government with the exception of the bottleneck tract. Inclusion of the bottleneck lands would have decreased the acreage of the adjacent Wheeler Peak Wilderness below the legal limit required for wilderness designation so the land was not returned to the Pueblo.

The Wheeler Peak Wilderness has subsequently been expanded several times and the transfer of the 764.33 acres of the bottleneck tract would not affect the wilderness designation of the Wheeler Peak Wilderness. My legislation would end this saga and bring to an end the responsibilities of the Federal Government to return land to the Taos Pueblo.

The land transfer to the Pueblo affected by this bill will enable the Pueblo to guard against the public intrusions that are presently occurring on surrounding Indian lands and sacred sites. These intrusions have occurred during sacred religious activities and are wholly inappropriate for such an area. Unfortunately, the Pueblo is powerless to prevent such intrusions without the return of the land to their management and jurisdiction.

Under the terms of the bill, the bottleneck lands would be used for traditional purposes only, such as religious ceremonies, hunting, fishing, and as a source of water, forage for domestic livestock, wood, timber, and other natural resources.

Enactment of this legislation will not result in the transfer of the land out of wilderness status. The Pueblo will manage the land as wilderness under strict requirements allowing only tribal access to the area for the specific activities, consistent with the Wilderness Act, which I have just described.

In the past, this legislation has been supported by the entire, bipartisan New Mexico congressional delegation and by a broad coalition of environmental organizations including The Wilderness Society, the Audubon Society, and the Sierra Club at the local, State, and national levels.

This legislation has been passed by the full House in previous Congresses, yet never enacted into law. Throughout this period, the Taos Pueblo has continued to suffer the indignity of public intrusions on their sacred land. It is time to put this long, sad story behind us by enacting this legislation. It is time to return the bottleneck to the Taos Pueblo people.

I am pleased to support the omnibus parks bill and I hope the Senate will support the bill

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.